JUSTICE BEHIND THE MURDERS IN AND THEN THERE WERE NONE

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Abstract:
The article analyses the mystery among ten disparate guests arrive at an isolated mansion, which is located on an island off the coast of Devon, and are treated to by two married domestics who prepared the house of the arrival. During the first evening a gramophone recording accuses all ten people of past crimes that went unpunished by the law. Soon they dying one by one at a time and the remaining guests deduce that the murderer is one of their own. Christie pleased with this book starting in her autobiography. Her conclusion portrays in different perspectives. The original nursery rhyme that inspired the title had an alternative ending. One of her widely considerable masterpiece described filled with suspense and a few surprises that majestically acted and executed melodrama. This article analyze the whether all the guests are punished and justice behind the murders in and then there were none.

Keywords: mystery, death, crime, puzzled.

Agatha Christie was an English writer known for 66 detective novels and 14 short story collection. She is particularly famous for her fictional detectives. She was made a dame for her contributions to literature. Christie a bestselling fiction writer of all time. Her novels are sold more than two million copies. She was the first recipient of Mystery Writers of America’s Grand Master Award.
The play and then there were none portrays about the crime in 1943 which is based on the ten guests.

Eight people all strangers to each other are invited to island off the English coast claythorne a former governess, she thinks she had been hired as a secretary. Philip Lombard an adventurer and William Blore an ex detective who they think hired to look out for trouble over the weekend. Dr. Armstrong thinks that he has been hired to look after the wife of the islands owner. Emily Brent, General Macarthur, Tony Marston and Judge Wargrave think they are going to see his old friends.

When they arrive on the island, the guests are greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, the butler and housekeeper, who report that the host, someone they call Mr. Owen, will not arrive until the next day. That evening, as all the guests gather in the drawing room after an excellent dinner, they hear a recorded voice accusing each of them of a specific murder committed in the past and never uncovered. They compare notes and realize that none of them, including the servants, knows Mr. Owen which suggests that they were brought here according to someone’s strange plan. Tony Marston chokes on poisoned whiskey and dies. Frightened, the party retreats to bed, where almost everyone is plagued by guilt and memories of their crimes. Vera Claythorne notices the similarity between the death of Marston and the first verse of a nursery rhyme, “Ten Little Indians,” that hangs in each bedroom.

The next morning the guests find that Mrs. Rogers died in her sleep. The guests hope to leave in next morning, but the boat that regularly delivers supplies to the island does not show up. Blore, Lombard, and Armstrong decide that the deaths must have been murders and determine to scour the island in search of the mysterious Mr. Owen, the Oldest guest General Macarthur, feels sure he is going to die and goes to look out at the ocean. Before lunch, Dr. Armstrong finds the general dead of a blow. The remaining guests meet to discuss their situation. They decide that one of them must be the killer. Many make vague accusations, but Judge Wargrave reminds them that the existing evidence suggests any of them could be the killer. Afternoon and dinner pass and everyone goes to the bed, locking his or her door before doing so. The next morning, they find that Rogers has been killed while chopping wood in preparation for breakfast. At this point, the guests feel sure the murders are being carried out according to the dictates of the nursery rhyme. Also, they realize that the dining-room table initially featured ten Indian figures, but with each death one of the figures disappears.
After breakfast, Emily feels slightly giddy, and she remains alone at the table for. She is soon found dead, her neck having been injected with poison. At this point, Wargrave initiates an organized search of everyone’s belongings, and anything that could be used as a weapon is locked away. The remaining guests sit together, passing time and casting suspicious looks at each other. Finally, Vera goes to take a bath, but she is startled by a piece of seaweed hanging from her ceiling and cries out. Blore, Lombard, and Armstrong run to help her, only to return downstairs to find Wargrave draped in a curtain that resembles courtroom robes and bearing a red mark on his forehead. Armstrong examines the body and reports that Wargrave has been shot in the head. That night, Blore hears footsteps in the hall; upon checking, he finds that Armstrong is not in his room. Blore and Lombard search for Armstrong, but they cannot find him anywhere in the house or on the island. When they return from searching, they discover another Indian figure missing from the table.

Vera, Lombard, and Blore go outside, resolving to stay in the safety of the open land. Blore decides to go back into the house to get food. The other two hear a crash, and they find someone has pushed a statue out of a second-story window, killing Blore as he approached the house. Vera and Lombard retreat to the shore, where they find Armstrong’s drowned body on the beach. Convinced that Lombard is the killer, Vera steals Lombard’s gun and shoots him. She returns to her bedroom to rest, happy to have survived. But upon finding a noose waiting for her in her room, she feels a strange compulsion to enact the last line of the nursery rhyme, and hangs herself.

The mystery baffles the police until a manuscript in a bottle is found. The late Judge Wargrave wrote the manuscript explaining that he planned the murders because he wanted to punish those whose crimes are not punishable under law. Wargrave frankly admits to his own lust for blood and pleasure in seeing the guilty punished. When a doctor told Wargrave he was dying, he decided to die in a blaze, instead of letting his life trickle away. He discusses how he chose his victims and how he did away with Marston, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, Macarthur, and Emily Brent. Wargrave then describes how he tricked Dr. Armstrong into helping him fake his own death, promising to meet the doctor by the cliffs to discuss a plan. When Armstrong arrived, Wargrave pushed him over the edge into the sea, then returned to the house and pretended to be dead. His ruse enabled him to dispose of the rest of the
guests without drawing their suspicion. Once Vera hanged herself on a noose that he prepared for her, Wargrave planned to shoot himself in such a way that his body would fall onto the bed as if it had been laid there. Thus, he hoped, the police would find ten dead bodies on an empty island.

Justice behind the murders that Wargrave responds to Miss Brent’s assertion that Mrs. Rogers’s death must have been an act of God resulting from prior sin. From his vantage point of a judge, Wargrave insists that divine intervention seems unlikely, as humankind has the job of administering justice. Unbeknownst to his listeners, Wargrave secretly means himself as the agent of justice. His observation of the difficulties in the process holds the implication that justice sometimes fails to be served. Wargrave appears to have taken upon himself putting right several injustices from the past. Lombard succinctly spells out why U.N. Owen brought him and the other guests to Soldier Island: Some crimes cannot be punished by law, but they still deserve punishment. Lombard’s theory that the unknown U.N. Owen plans to perform his own acts of justice appears correct save for one detail. When Lombard interprets Wargrave as guilty of murder, by including Wargrave among those to be punished, he overlooks him as the prime suspect. Based on U.N. Owens’s criteria, Judge Wargrave’s “murder” was not in fact a crime, because the man Wargrave helped sentence to death warranted his punishment. If Lombard had known this fact, he might have correctly identified U.N. Owen.

During the investigation of the murders, Inspector Maine debriefs the Commissioner on what the police know. Maine correctly identifies the murderer as a fanatic about justice. However, the question of whether the ten victims were actually guilty very much did matter to the murderer. Maine may believe that since Wargrave’s crime named on the recording was actually a justified killing, the killer didn’t care whether the victims’ crimes were real. In a turn of dramatic irony, the Commissioner’s momentary realization that Wargrave’s “crime” was not real outs Wargrave himself as the murderer. Wargrave, the mastermind of the murders, explains himself and his actions on Soldier Island in his note found in the bottle. His thirst for justice had always been combined with a “lust to kill” but only for the guilty. This desire led him to become a judge, where he could make sure the innocent went free and the guilty received their fair punishment. Wargrave’s obsession with the guilty suffering makes
him especially susceptible to rage when he realizes how many guilty people are not brought to justice by law. He has judged that everyone on Soldier Island was guilty.

Justice behind the murders is an ambiguous concept. The criminal of and then there were none is a fantastic which Wargrave believes that the soldiers island committed crimes which was unpunished by him it was punished which statistically they deserve to be emotionally toured and eventually killed.

References:

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